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Fauquier County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee

Meeting of March 17, 2004

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Public Safety Committee Chairman Chester Stribling called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Introduction of Participants

Present were:

- Mr. Ray Graham, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- Mr. Chester Stribling, Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- The Honorable Jonathan S. Lynn, Attorney for the Commonwealth
- Sheriff Charlie Ray Fox
- Mr. G. Robert Lee, County Administrator
- Mr. Tony Hooper, Acting Deputy County Administrator
- Ms. Catherine Heritage, Acting Assistant County Administrator
- Lt. Colonel Dave Flohr, Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
- Mr. Charles Shepherd, Virginia Department of Health
- Mr. Tom Marable, President, Fauquier Fire and Rescue Association
- Chief Philip Myer, Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services
- Mr. Doug Taylor, Fire and Rescue Association
- Ms. Sue Powles, Director, Warrenton-Fauquier Joint Communications
- Ms. Janice Bourne, Director, Finance Department
- Mr. Jeff Crane, Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
- Mr. Darren Stevens, Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- Dr. Bill Barker, Fauquier Hospital
- Mr. Fred Hildebrand, Superintendent, CFFW Regional Jail
- Mr. Bruce Conover, Assistant Superintendent, CFFW Regional Jail
- Ms. Alexandra Bogedahovic, Fauquier Times Democrat
- Mr. Tom Pavelko, Staff to the Public Safety Committee

3. Approval of the Minutes and Agenda

Mr. Stribling called for approval of the current agenda and the minutes of the February 25, 2004 meeting. Seconded: Mr. Graham. Adopted.



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4. Regional Jail Expansion

CFFW Regional Jail Superintendent, Fred Hildebrand gave a brief presentation regarding the expansion of the Regional Jail targeted to begin in July 2004. He advised, the facility is currently operating above capacity and the jail population is expected to double by the year 2017. As all other alternatives have been maximized, the Regional Jail Board voted to expand the current facility by way of a Work Release Facility. After 50% reimbursement by the state, Fauquier's portion of the expense would be \$1,882,799. Katie Heritage was tasked with drafting a resolution for the Board of Supervisors authorizing the Regional Jail Board to request State funding for the expansion.

5. **Deputy Firing Range**

Sheriff Fox informed the committee that the FCSO is need of their own firing range. The current arrangement with the Warrenton Training Center requires deputies to share time and space with state and town officers resulting in increased over-time pay. It was recommended that the Sheriff's Office begin exploring possible sites for the firing range. Mr. Graham requested schematics of the proposed range, so the county can get a better idea of how much space is needed. Several possible site locations including property near the county landfill and the intersection of Elk Run and Ritchie Roads are being considered. Katie Heritage was tasked obtaining a GIS map of the landfill to determine feasibility.

6. Concealed Weapon Permit Fingerprinting

Sheriff Fox set forth a proposal to eliminate the need for the fingerprinting of individuals prior to applying for a concealed weapons permit. With over 350 concealed weapons permits being issued last year alone, this poses a strain on time and resources for the Sheriff's Department. Kate Heritage, Jon Lynn and Paul McCulla were tasked with exploring the implications of this proposal.



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7. Update on Public Radio System

Tony Hooper reported good progress on the new 800 MHz. radio system. All five sites are constructed and the necessary equipment is being installed. Testing is already underway and will continue. Training for the system is set to begin in April. A target date for the paging system is uncertain at this time. Mr. Hooper was tasked with developing a separate schedule for implementation of the pager portion of the project. The Fire and Rescue Association was asked to submit the number of active volunteers at the April meeting in an effort to find out how many pagers are needed.

8. Public Safety Officer Benefits

Philip Myer announced positive changes in the benefits program for public safety officers. In addition to career staff, the coverage has been extended to volunteers as well. The amount of coverage has been increased to \$267,400. To ensure that all members are covered in the event of an accident, Mr. Graham recommended that all companies keep their volunteer list current.

9. Fire and Emergency Services Budget Status

Chief Myer updated the committee on the status of the Fire and Emergency Services budget. He proposed a one cent increase in the Fire and Rescue Levy. Such an increase would fund both a Training Captain and an EMT Position. This would also allow for the conversion of two part time temporary positions to full time permanent positions. Chief Myer feels the one cent increase would be enough to maintain operations for at least the next five years. Mr. Graham indicated that such an increase could be met with some objection. He suggested that Fire and Emergency Services and the Fire and Rescue Association work together to achieve a compromise on how the levy monies should be used.

10. Status of Tasking List

Katie Heritage updated the committee on the status of the tasking list formulated at the February 25, 2004 meeting. All assignments have been completed with the exception of the re-classification of the EMT Technician Position. Chief Myer has been tasked with taking the position before the personnel and finance committees.



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11. Roundtable

Dr. Barker of the Fauquier Hospital expressed the need for advanced life support systems in Fauquier County. Currently the county is lacking such resources that would inevitably save lives.

12. Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Mr. Stribling called for adjournment. Generally concurred.

Given under my hand this 25th t day of March 2004

Thomas S. Pavelko, Lead Staff Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee